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ANTHROPOLOGY.

Congresses, National and International, held in Paris during, and a part of, the French Exposition of 1889.— There were about 120 such congresses; all such as would otherwise have been held in France, and many of those which would otherwise have been held in other countries in Europe, were held in Paris, in 1889.

The Congress of Archælogie and Anthropologie Prehistorique was the most important from the American standpoint of Archæology. There were enrolled 420 members. Of the foreigners there were Belgians, 56; English, 32; German, 28; Italian, 26; Danes, 13; Austrians, 11; Hollanders, 7; Portuguese, 13; Swedes, 8; Swiss, 7; Russians, 6; Finns, 6; Spaniards, 4; Americans, 5; though not all were present.

The first three seances of the congress were devoted to the questions relative to glacial phenomena, the formation of river valleys, and the classification to be made in prehistoric anthropology and paleontology during the quarternary epoch. The ancient theories relating to these questions, the latter especially, were maintained by Dr. Gosse, of Geneva, and Mortillet, of Paris. Their opponents were Mr. Evans, of London, and Monsieur Gosselet, of Lille. Dr. Schliemann occupied an afternoon in the discussion of his celebrated discoveries in Asia Minor. Mons. J. de Morgan rendered him much assistance in demonstrating the antiquity of the men of that epoch and locality by relating his discoveries in Armenia; a part of which antiquities the National Museum has just purchased from his brother, H. de Morgan. Interesting papers and discussion were read and had on the subject of the age of bronze and stone in Denmark, the antiquities of the Canary Islands, the Megalithic Monuments of Tunis, the Lacustrian of Roumania, the engraving and sculpture in southern France, particularly at the cavern of Mas d'Azil. The papers were read respectively by Dr. Sophus Muller, MM. Derneau, Hamy, Butzurneau, and Judge Piette. My own papers were those relating to the periods, paleolithic and neolithic, in America, and that on the subject of the gravels of Trenton in which Dr. Abbott has discovered paleolithic implements. MM. Fraipont and Lohest gave most interesting descriptions of their celebrated discoveries in the Grotto de Spy, Belgium. Dr. Topinard described his studies in the color of hair and eyes of the people of France. There were interesting papers and discussions by the Portuguese, Spaniards, Russians, Scandinavians, and Belgians.

The French Exposition was immense. It was a great success from an artistic, educational, financial, and expositional standpoint. It could scarcely be otherwise, for the French people and government were in perfect harmony, and thoroughly interested and determined in their efforts. They commenced with sufficient appropriations and in ample time to make it so. The total number of paying entries exceeded 25,000,000 persons; the average entries upon ordinary days were from 140- to 160,000, while on *fête* days, Sundays, extra music, illumination, fireworks, etc., the attendance ran up without effort to 250,000 and even 350,000.

I took with me 397 objects belonging to prehistoric America. One hundred and sixty-five were paleolithic implements which I had gathered up in the District of Columbia, a few weeks before sailing, for this purpose. I did not expect to bring these back, but I intended to use them for purposes of donation, exchange, etc. One hundred and eight of them were arrow- and spear-points, having the same destination. Eleven specimens, and one box containing uncounted and unnumbered specimens, were chips and flakes from Flint Ridge, and obsidian from the Pacific Slope, intended as a donation to M. de Mortillet, who is making a collection of this material, and has obsidian flakes and cores from almost every part of the world. Forty-five were plaster casts of the peculiarly shaped Indian objects of the United States, which were denominated by Dr. Rau as "Ceremonial." There were also a series of casts of pipes. Seventy-one were objects from the collection of Mr. W. K. Moorehead, and represented the celebrated discovery made last April in the Porter Mound, Roos County, Ohio. Twenty-eight were impressions of pottery, showing the decoration. Twenty-nine specimens were hard stone, and were intended, with the Moorehead collection, to be returned to me at Washington. The others were intended for gift or exchange. They proved exceedingly interesting to the prehistoric anthropologists who were in attendance upon the various congresses. I first endeavored to make a display of these objects in the halls used by the congresses, but found it to be unsuitable, and, by the advice of those who had the greatest knowledge and interest in the matter, I took them to the exposition, purchasing two glass-top cases, black in color, and respectable in appearance, and there displayed the entire collection. This was in accordance with the recommendation of Dr. Hamy, MM. Cartailhac, Boban, and others.

I directed that at the close of the exposition the objects remaining were to be disposed of as follows:

The principal portion of the paleolithic specimens were to go to the Musée of St. Germain, though several individual objects were to be given to MM. de Mortillet, Cartailhac, Capitan, d'Acy, and Boban. The plaster casts of the ceremonial and other curious objects peculiar to the United States will go to the Trocadero Museum in charge of Dr. Hamy.

I do not know whether any of these objects will figure in the catalogues of the exposition, but I was assured that all inspection and visits by the jury for the award of prizes had been made before my display was set up.—*Thomas Wilson.*

British Museum.—We landed in England on the 4th day of September, and spent the rest of our time until the 2d of October there and in Ireland. I visited the British Museum, and had several conferences with Mr. Franks, who is the Curator of the Department of Ethnology and Prehistoric Archæology. I had known him before, and my visit was very satisfactory. His department is being enlarged, and he will have room for a better and finer display. That portion of his department relating to prehistoric man has fewer objects than the same department in the National Museum; but it occupies greater space, and is consequently displayed to better advantage.

Mr. Franks receives an annual appropriation for the *purchase* of specimens for his department of £1,200, equal to $6,000, besides a fund left by Mr. Christy, of which Mr. John Evans and Mr. Franks are trustees, the income of which, however, I do not know. The Christy fund has furnished many of the objects in the Museum. It, with some aid from the Museum, I believe, has lately purchased the magnificent collection of Mons. Peccedeau de Lisle, of Toulouse, France, comprising a full series of the cavern implements and objects of France, and including his great find at the cavern of Bruniquel, being the largest part of the known examples of sculptured and engraved bone and horn and ivory objects belonging to the paleolithic period. I did not wish to ask the prices paid for this collection, but when I examined it at Toulouse the lowest price at which it could have been purchased was 40,000 francs, equal to $8,000. It is now displayed in the paleolithic room at the head of the stairs in the British Museum. It contains the three well-known and unique sculptures in the round, of ivory and reindeer horn, two representing a reindeer and the other a mammoth. There are many other drawings and engravings etched or engraved upon bone or stone, some of which show great artistic power. The report of this department in Parliamentary

Paper No. 229, 1888, says: "This acquisition renders the collection at the Museum of ancient cave remains the most complete that is known to archæologists."

I visited the Kensington Museum and the Museum of Natural History, now presided over by Prof. W. H. Flower. Prof. Flower was president of the British Association at Newcastle this year, and his address was devoted to the organization of museums so as to produce the greatest benefit for students and for the public.—*Thomas Wilson.*

ENTOMOLOGY.

The Flour Moth.—A new insect pest has recently made its appearance on the continent of America. It is known as the flour moth (*Ephestia kuhniella*), and its ravages, as its name indicates, are seen in the destruction of flour, in which it weaves its webs, and upon which the caterpillar feeds. As it is very destructive, and increases with marvelous fecundity, it is of the utmost importance that every precaution should be taken to prevent its spread.

The flour moth is indigenous to the Mediterranean, and a few years ago it would have been likely to stay there. But increasing commerce has its attendant dangers. Experience has shown that as trade in the milling industry enlarges, weed and insect pests, confined at one time to a certain locality, have spread to places far distant. The flour moth has probably come to America with importations of seed wheat, or in bags in which flour has been exported, and which before their return may have been stored for a time in some place infested by the insect.

The color of the fore-wings of this moth may be generally described as of rather pale gray, with darker transverse markings. The hind wings are peculiar for their whitish semi-transparency, with a darker line from the point along a part of the fore edge. The accompaning illustration will convey a general idea of the appearance of the moth.

An examination of the flour infested by the insect shows a mass completely spun together with the web. Giving the result of his investigations, an expert tells us he found it so matted together that, after pulling some lumps of it away, he found that the rest hung down